

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 7064 – SB 7020

August 22, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL: Allows (1) active duty and retired members of the armed forces of the United States and (2) active duty and retired members of law enforcement, whether on duty or off duty, and (3) enhanced handgun carry permit holders, except in certain circumstances, to possess or carry a handgun whether openly or concealed, with or without the intent to go armed in any public school building or bus, on any public school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or any other property owned, operated, or while in use by any public board of education, school, college or university board of trustees, regents or directors for the administration of any public educational institution, unless the person is otherwise prohibited from possessing or carrying a handgun by state or federal law.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Liability insurance expenditures for schools is estimated to increase; however, the precise amount or timing of the increase cannot be reasonable determined at this time.

Assumptions:

- Authorizing such individuals to possess or carry a handgun in any public-school building or bus, on any public-school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field, or any other property owned, operated, or while in use by any public board of education, school, college or university board of trustees, regents or directors for the administration of any public educational institution will not significantly impact the operations of any such school or institution.
- Based on information provided by the Department Education, locally governed institutions, Tennessee Board of Regents, and the University of Tennessee System (UT), while operations are not expected to be impacted, each entities liability insurance is expected to increase, however the precise increased amount cannot be reasonable determined.
- Pursuant to 39-17-1309(b)(2), it is a Class E felony offense to possess or carry any firearm, explosive, explosive weapon, bowie knife, hawk bill knife, ice pick, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, knuckles or any other weapon of like kind, not used solely for instructional or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, in any public or private school building or bus, on any public or private school campus, grounds, recreation area, athletic field or any other property owned, operated, or while in

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use by any board of education, school, college or university board of trustees, regents or directors for the administration of any public or private educational institution.

- Based on information provided by the Department of Correction, there has been an average of one admission per year over the last 10 years for the Class E felony offense under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1309 for carrying a weapon on school property. Therefore, the proposed exemption will not result in a sufficient decrease in the number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant decrease in revenue or expenditures.
- Any impact to the court system as a result of the proposed legislation is estimated to be not significant.
- Allowing such persons to possess or carry a handgun in such locations is estimated to increase the number of enhanced handguns carry permits but any change in the number of permits issued is considered to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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